JULY 1, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 1

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Heterogeneity Among Cardiac Ischemic and Anginal Responses to Exercise, Mental Stress, and Daily Life 1
David S. Sheps, Robert P. McMahon, Carl J. Pepine, Peter H. Stone, A. David Goldberg, Herman Taylor, Jerome D. Cohen, Lewis C. Becker, Bernard Chaitman, Gennell L. Knatterud, and Peter G. Kaufmann

Platelet Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Receptor Blockade With *Abciximab* Reduces Ischemic Complications in Patients Undergoing Directional Coronary Atherectomy 7
Sasan Ghaffari, Dean J. Kereiakes, A. Michael Lincoff, Thomas A. Kelly, Gerald C. Timmis, Neal S. Kleiman, James J. Ferguson, David P. Miller, Robert A. Califf, and Eric J. Topol, for the EPILOG Investigators

$P1^{a1/a2}$ Polymorphism of Glycoprotein IIIa and Risk of Coronary Artery Disease and Restenosis Following Coronary Angioplasty 13
Cyril D.S. Mamotte, Frank M. van Bockxmeer, and Roger R. Taylor

One-Month Results of Coronary Stenting in Patients ≥75 Years of Age 17
Thierry Lefèvre, Marie-Claude Morice, Hélène Eltchaninoff, Yves Chabrillat, Max Amor, Jean Michel Juliard, Antoine Gommeaux, Simon Cattan, Pierre Dumas, and Edgar Benveniste

Variations of Autonomic Tone Preceding Onset of Atrial Fibrillation After Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting 22
Carlo Dimmer, Rene Tavernier, Nikola Gjorgov, Guido Van Nooten, Denis L. Clement, and Luc Jordaens

Coronary Revascularization in the Treatment of Moderate and Severe Postischemic Left Ventricular Dysfunction 26
Farzin Fath-Ordoubadi, Domenico Pagano, Norma V.S. Marinho, Bruce E. Keogh, Robert S. Bonser, and Paolo G. Camici

Impact of Stents on Clinical Outcomes in Percutaneous Left Main Coronary Artery Revascularization 32
Ran Kornowski, Marc Klutstein, Lowell F. Satler, Augusto D. Pichard, Kenneth M. Kent, Alexandre Abizaid, Gary S. Mintz, Mun K. Hong, Jeffrey J. Popma, Roxana Mehran, and Martin B. Leon

Prognostic Value of *Dobutamine* Echocardiography in Patients After Q-Wave or Non–Q-Wave Acute Myocardial Infarction 38
Chao-Hung Wang, Wen-Jin Cherng, Chung-Ching Hua, and Ming-Jui Hung

Value of The American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Stenosis Morphology Classification for Coronary Interventions in the Late 1990s 43
Stephen M. Zaacks, Jill E. Allen, James E. Calvin, Gary L. Schaer, Brian W. Palvas, Joseph E. Parrillo, and Lloyd W. Klein

Validation of Death Certificate Diagnosis of Out-of-Hospital Sudden Cardiac Death 50
Carlos Iribarren, Richard S. Crow, Peter J. Hannan, David R. Jacobs Jr., and Russell V. Luepker

Differences Between Local Investigator and Core Laboratory Interpretation of the Admission Electrocardiogram in Patients With Unstable Angina Pectoris or Non–Q-Wave Myocardial Infarction (A ThRombin Inhibition In Myocardial Ischemia [TRIM] Substudy) 54
Lene Holmvang, Philip Hasbak, Peter Clemmensen, Galen Wagner, and Peer Grande

PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY

Treatment Patterns and Distribution of Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol Levels in Treatment-Eligible United States Adults 61
Thomas J. Hoerger, Mohan V. Bala, Jeremy W. Bray, Timothy C. Wilcosky, and John LaRosa

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Physiologic Cardiac Pacing in Patients With Contemporary Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillators 66
Demosthenes Iskos, Gerard J. Fahy, Keith G. Lurie, Scott Sakaguchi, Joanne M. Collins, Joseph Fetter, and David G. Benditt

Results of a Restrictive Use of Antiarrhythmic Drugs in the Chronic Treatment of Atrioventricular Reentrant Tachycardias in Infancy and Childhood 72
Jean-Pierre Pfammatter and Franco P. Stocker

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Influence of Race and Gender on Care Process, Resource Use, and Hospital-Based Outcomes in Congestive Heart Failure 76
Edward F. Philbin and Thomas G. DiSalvo

Effects of Caregiver Specialty on Cost and Clinical Outcomes Following Hospitalization for Heart Failure 82
Kishore J. Harjai, Louis-Marie Boulos, Frank W. Smart, Tansel Turgut, Marie A. Krousel-Wood, Dwight D. Stapleton, Mandeep R. Mehra, Joseph P. Murgo, and Hector O. Ventura

CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

Regional Ventricular Systolic Abnormalities Caused by a Rudimentary Chamber in Patients With Univentricular Hearts 86

Shunji Kurotobi, Tetsuya Sano, Hiroaki Naito, Tohru Matsushita, Makoto Takeuchi, Shigetoyo Kogaki, Jun Arisawa, Hikaru Matsuda, and Shintaro Okada

INTERVIEW

EUGENE BRAUNWALD, MD: A Conversation with the Editor **93**

BRIEF REPORTS

Improved Myocardial Ischemia Detection by Combined Physical and Mental Stress Testing **109**
Patrick R. Hunziker, Christoph Gradel, Jan Müller-Brand, Peter Buser, and Matthias Pfisterer

Low-Density Lipoprotein Receptor Genotype-Dependent Response to Cholesterol Lowering by Combined *Pravastatin* and *Cholestyramine* in Familial Hypercholesterolemia **113**
Kouji Kajinami, Kunimasa Yagi, Toshinori Higashikata, Akihiro Inazu, Junji Koizumi, and Hiroshi Mabuchi

Final Results From a Pilot Study With an Implantable Loop Recorder to Determine the Etiology of Syncope in Patients With Negative Noninvasive and Invasive Testing **117**
Andrew D. Krahn, George J. Klein, Raymond Yee, and Caro Norris

Risk Factors for New Thromboembolic Stroke in Patients ≥62 Years of Age With Chronic Atrial Fibrillation **119**
Wilbert S. Aronow, Chul Ahn, Itzhak Kronzon, and Hal Gutstein

Can Echocardiography Predict the Presence or Absence of Endocardial Fibroelastosis in Infants <1 Year of Age With Left Ventricular Outflow Obstruction? **122**
William T. Mahle, Paul M. Weinberg, and Jack Rychik

Video-Thoracoscopic Pericardial Window in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Pericardial Effusions **124**
Patrick Nataf, P. Cacoub, Mary Regan, F. Baron, Richard Dorent, Alain Pavie, and Iradj Gandjbakhch

READERS' COMMENTS **127**

JULY 15, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 2

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Coronary Wallstents Show Significant Late, Postprocedural Expansion Despite Implantation With Adjunct High-Pressure Balloon Inflations **129**
Clemens von Birgelen, Segei G. Airiian, Pim J. de Feyter, David P. Foley, Wim J. van der Giessen, and Patrick W. Serruys

Results of Percutaneous Coronary Angioplasty in Patients <40 Years of Age **135**
Christopher J. Ellis, John K. French, Harvey D. White, John A. Ormiston, Ralph M.L. Whitlock, and Mark W.I. Webster

Immediate and Long-Term Outcomes of Rotational Atherectomy Versus Balloon Angioplasty Alone for Treatment of Diffuse In-Stent Restenosis **140**
Sang-Gon Lee, Cheol Whan Lee, Sang-Sig Cheong, Myeong-Ki Hong, Jae-Joong Kim, Seong-Wook Park, and Seung-Jung Park

Effects of *Probucol* and *Cilostazol* Alone and in Combination on Frequency of Poststenting Restenosis **144**
Michihito Sekiya, Junichi Funada, Kouki Watanabe, Masao Miyagawa, and Hiroshi Akutsu

Significance of Exercise-Induced ST-Segment Elevation and T-Wave Pseudonormalization for Improvement of Function in Healed Q-Wave Myocardial Infarction **148**
Christian A. Schneider, Anne K. Helmig, Frank M. Baer, Michael Horst, Erland Erdmann, and Udo Sechtem

Autonomic Modulation of QT Intervals in Post-Myocardial Infarction Patients With and Without Ventricular Fibrillation **154**
Matti Viitasalo, Jouko Karjalainen, Markku Mäkijärvi, and Lauri Toivonen

Relation Between Severity of Coronary Artery Disease, Left Ventricular Function, and Myocardial Infarction, and Influence of the ACE *I/D* Gene Polymorphism **160**
François Ledru, Didier Blanchard, Salvatore Battaglia, Xavier Jeunemaitre, Dominique Courbon, Louis Guize, Jean-Léon Guermonprez, Pierre Ducimetière, and Benoit Diébold

Relative Role of Coronary Stenosis Severity and Morphology in Determining Pharmacologic Stress Echo Positivity **166**
Albert Varga, Eugenio Picano, Rosa Sicari, Enri Gliozheni, Cataldo Palmieri, and Mario Marzilli

PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY

Changes in Total and High-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol Over 10- and 20-Year Periods (The Honolulu Heart Program) **172**
Robert D. Abbott, Katsuhiko Yano, Amy A. Hakim, Cecil M. Burchfiel, Dan S. Sharp, Beatriz L. Rodriguez, and J. David Curb

SYSTEMIC HYPERTENSION

Safety of *Irbesartan* in the Treatment of Mild to Moderate Systemic Hypertension **179**
Teresa A. Simon, R. Thomas Gelarden, Steven A. Freitag, Kenneth B. Kassler-Taub, and Richard Davies

VALVULAR HEART DISEASE

Utility of Transesophageal Echocardiography During Port-Access Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery **183**

Robert M. Applebaum, Wayne M. Cutler, Nisha Bhardwaj, Stephen B. Colvin, Aubrey C. Galloway, Greg H. Ribakove, Eugene A. Grossi, Daniel S. Schwartz, Richard V. Anderson, Paul A. Tunick, and Itzhak Kronzon

Clinical Application of Transthoracic Volume-Rendered Three-Dimensional Echocardiography in the Assessment of Mitral Regurgitation **189**
Jiefen Yao, Navroz D. Masani, Qi-Ling Cao, Peter Nikuta, and Natesa G. Pandian

CARDIOMYOPATHY

Echocardiographic Analysis of Regional and Global Left Ventricular Shape in Chagas' Cardiomyopathy **197**
Ayan R. Patel, Carlos Lima, Adelino Parro, Marie Arsenault, Mani A. Vannan, and Natesa G. Pandian

MISCELLANEOUS

Changes in Aortic Distensibility and Pulse Wave Velocity Assessed With Magnetic Resonance Imaging Following Beta-Blocker Therapy in the Marfan Syndrome **203**
Maarten Groenink, Albert de Roos, Barbara J.M. Mulder, Jos A.E. Spaan, and Ernst E. van der Wall

METHODS

Measurements and Day-to-Day Variabilities of Left Ventricular Volumes and Ejection Fraction by Three-Dimensional Echocardiography and Comparison With Magnetic Resonance Imaging **209**
Youssef F.M. Nosir, Maarten H. Lequin, Jaroslaw D. Kasprzak, Ron T. van Domburg, Wim B. Vletter, Jiefen Yao, Jaap Stoker, Folkert J. Ten Cate, and Jos R.T.C. Roelandt

CARDIOVASCULAR PHARMACOLOGY

Effect of Conjugated Estrogen on Peripheral Flow-Mediated Vasodilation in Postmenopausal Women **215**
Faris Al-Khalili, Maria Eriksson, Britt-Marie Landgren, and Karin Schenck-Gustafsson

INTERVIEW

JOSEPH CHOLMONDELEY GREENFIELD, JR., MD: A Conversation With the Editor **219**
William C. Roberts

BRIEF REPORTS

Reversible Perfusion Defects on Exercise Tomographic Thallium Imaging in Patients With and Without Collateral Flow **234**
David G. Hurrell, Thomas P. Nobrega, Timothy F. Christian, Malcolm R. Bell, and Raymond J. Gibbons

Acute Effect of Estrogen on Metabolic Coronary Vasodilator Responses to Atrial Pacing in Postmenopausal Women **236**
Todd J. Anderson

Efficacy of Coronary Stenting in the Management of Cardiac Allograft Vasculopathy **239**
Peter M.T. Wong, Chumpol Piamsomboon, Atul Mathur, Hollace D. Chastain II, Devinderijit J. Singh, Ming W. Liu, J. Michael Parks, Sriram Iyer, Larry S. Dean, William A. Baxley, Robert C. Bourge, and Gary S. Roubin

Effect of Intravenous *Procainamide* on Direct-Current Cardioversion of Atrial Fibrillation **241**
Laura O. Jacobs, Thomas C. Andrews, David N. Pederson, and Daniel J. Donovan

Effect of *Enalapril* Therapy on Left Ventricular Mass and Volumes in Asymptomatic Chronic, Severe Mitral Regurgitation Secondary to Mitral Valve Prolapse **242**
Marc D. Tischler, Michaelanne Rowan, and Martin LeWinter

Levels of Soluble Fas Ligand in Myocarditis **246**
Tetsuya Toyozaki, Michiaki Hiroe, Masato Tanaka, Shigekazu Nagata, Hidemi Ohwada, and Fumiaki Marumo

Transvenous "Snare-Assisted" Coil Occlusion of Patent Ductus Arteriosus **248**
Howard S. Weber and Stephen E. Cyran

Sources of Variability in Hospital Costs of Atrial Septal Defect Repair **252**
Mark D. Parrish, Marc Pollock, Naomi Gauthier, Jeanny Park, and Brett Hobde

Role of Vasoactive Mediators in Primary and Secondary Pulmonary Hypertension **254**
Ghada Mikhail, Adrian H. Chester, J. Simon R. Gibbs, Julie A. A. Borland, Nicholas R. Banner, and Magdi H. Yacoub

Effect of the Menstrual Cycle on Endothelium-Dependent Vasodilation of the Brachial Artery in Normal Young Women **256**
JoAnna L. English, Laura O. Jacobs, Garfield Green, and Thomas C. Andrews

---

AUGUST 1, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 3

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Impact of Time to Treatment With Tissue Plasminogen Activator on Morbidity and Mortality Following Acute Myocardial Infarction (The Second National Registry of Myocardial Infarction) **259**
Robert J. Goldberg, Michael Mooradd, Jerry H. Gurwitz William J. Rogers, William J. French, Hal V. Barron, and Joel M. Gore

Incidence and Prognosis of Early Primary Ventricular Fibrillation in Acute Myocardial Infarction—Results of the Gruppo Italiano per lo Studio della Sopravvivenza nell'Infarto Miocardico (GISSI-2) Database **265**
Alberto Volpi, Augusto Cavalli, Luigi Santoro, and Eva Negri, on behalf of the GISSI-2 Investigators

Impact of Postangioplasty Restenosis on Comparisons of Outcome Between Angioplasty and Bypass Grafting . **272**

Arvinder S. Kurbaan, Timothy J. Bowker, Charles D.J. Ilsley, and Anthony F. Rickards, on behalf of the Coronary Angioplasty versus Bypass Revascularisation Investigation (CABRI) Investigators

Mechanical Debulking Versus Balloon Angioplasty for the Treatment of Diffuse In-Stent Restenosis **277**
Harold L. Dauerman, Donald S. Baim, Donald E. Cutlip, Anthony M. Sparano, C. Michael Gibson, Richard E. Kuntz, Joseph P. Carrozza, Gary R. Garber, and David J. Cohen

Influence of the Preoperative Signal-Averaged Electrocardiogram on Left Ventricular Function After Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery in Patients With Left Ventricular Dysfunction **285**
James R. Cook, Joseph E. Flack, Cheryl A. Gregory, David W. Deaton, John A. Rousou, and Richard M. Engelman, for The CABG Patch Trial

Usefulness of Adenosine Triphosphate-Atropine Stress Echocardiography for Detecting Coronary Artery Stenosis **290**
Yoshitaka Miyazono, Akira Kisanuki, Koichi Toyonaga, Ryoji Matsushita, Yutaka Otsuji, Shinichi Arima, Shoichiro Nakao, and Hiromitsu Tanaka

Alterations in Fibrin Detected in Coronary Sinus Blood After Heparin and Coronary Angiography With a Nonionic Contrast Agent *(Iohexol)* **295**
Laura G. Melton, Gregory J. Dehmer, and Don A. Gabriel

Relative Contribution of Low-Density Lipoprotein Receptor and Lipoprotein Lipase Gene Mutations to Angiographically Assessed Coronary Artery Disease Among French Canadians **299**
Daniel Gaudet, Marie-Claude Vohl, Pierre Julien, Gérald Tremblay, Patrice Perron, Claude Gagné, Jean Bergeron, Sital Moorjani, and Jean-Pierre Després

Risk Stratification of Patients Undergoing Peripheral Vascular Revascularization by Combined Resting and Dipyridamole Echocardiography **306**
Elisabetta Rossi, Franco Citterio, Maria Fenicia Vescio, Faustino Pennestri, Antonella Lombardo, Francesco Loperfido, and Attilio Maseri

PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY

Efficacy and Safety of *Simvastatin* 80 mg/day in Hypercholesterolemic Patients **311**
Evan A. Stein, Michael H. Davidson, Adrian S. Dobs, Helmut Schrott, Carlos A. Dujovne, Harold Bays, Stuart R. Weiss, Michael R. Melino, Michael E. Stepanavage, and Yale B. Mitchel, for The Expanded Dose Simvastatin U.S. Study Group

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Effect of Ethanol Drinking, Hangover, and Exercise on Adrenergic Activity and Heart Rate Variability in Patients With a History of Alcohol-Induced Atrial Fibrillation **317**
Tiina Mäki, Lauri Toivonen, Pekka Koskinen, Hannu Näveri, Matti Härkönen, and Hannu Leinonen

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Skin Test Anergy in Advanced Heart Failure Secondary to Either Ischemic or Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy **323**
Donna L. Vredevoe, Mary A. Woo, Lynn V. Doering, Mary Lynn Brecht, Michele A. Hamilton, and Gregg C. Fonarow

Prognostic Significance of Echocardiographically Estimated Right Ventricular Shortening in Advanced Heart Failure **329**
George T. Karatasakis, Labros A. Karagounis, Periklis A. Kalyvas, Athanassios Manginas, George D. Athanassopoulos, Stefanos A. Aggelakas, and Dennis V. Cokkinos

Effects of *Clonidine* on Heart Rate Variability in Congestive Heart Failure **335**
Ihab Girgis, Simon Chakko, Eduardo de Marchena, Cesar Jara, Pablo Diaz, Agustin Castellanos, and Robert J. Myerburg

Ventilatory Response to Exercise Correlates With Impaired Heart Rate Variability in Patients With Chronic Congestive Heart Failure **338**
Piotr Ponikowski, Tuan Peng Chua, Massimo Piepoli, Waldemar Banasiak, Stefan D. Anker, Roman Szelemej, Wlodzimierz Molenda, Krzysztof Wrabec, Alessandro Capucci, and Andrew J.S. Coats

MISCELLANEOUS

Left Ventricular Diastolic Filling in the Elderly: The Cardiovascular Health Study **345**
Julius M. Gardin, Alice M. Arnold, Diane E. Bild, Vivienne-Elizabeth Smith, Joao A. C. Lima, H. Sidney Klopfenstein, and Dalane W. Kitzman

METHODS

Estimation of Left and Right Ventricular Filling Pressures After Heart Transplantation by Tissue Doppler Imaging **352**
Lalitha Sundereswaran, Sherif F. Nagueh, Sandeep Vardan, Katherine J. Middleton, William A. Zoghbi, Miguel A. Quiñones, and Guillermo Torre-Amione

INTERVIEW

DAVID COSTON SABISTON, Jr., MD: A Conversation With the Editor **358**

BRIEF REPORTS

Predictors of In-Hospital Bundle Branch Block Reversion After Presenting With Acute Myocardial Infarction and Bundle Branch Block **373**
Elena B. Sgarbossa, Sergio L. Pinski, Kathy B. Gates, and Galen S. Wagner, for the GUSTO-I Investigators

Validation of Low-Dose *Dobutamine* Magnetic Resonance Imaging for Assessment of Myocardial Viability After Infarction by Serial Imaging **375**

Paul Dendale, Philippe R. Franken, Eduard Holman, Johannes Avenarius, Ernst E. van der Wall, and Albert de Roos

Effectiveness of Percutaneous Coronary Interventions to Prevent Recurrent Coronary Events in Patients on Chronic Hemodialysis **378**
Steven P. Marso, Lawrence W. Gimple, John T. Philbrick, and John P. DiMarco

Importance of Left Anterior Descending Coronary Artery Curvature in Determining Cross-Sectional Plaque Distribution Assessed by Intravascular Ultrasound **381**
Takahiro Iwami, Takashi Fujii, Toshiro Miura, Nozomu Otani, Hiroshi Iida, Atsushi Kawamura, Shinji Yoshitake, Michihiro Kohno, Yuji Hisamatsu, Hiroshi Iwamoto, and Masunori Matsuzaki

Usefulness of Coronary Angiography for Assessing Left Ventricular Function **384**
Birger Wandt, Anders Kähäri, Jan Zizala, Leif Bojö, and Bengt Wranne

Morphologic and Functional Assessment of Coronary Aneurysm After Kawasaki Disease by Repeated Dipyridamole-Loading Coronary Angiography **387**
Makoto Shinohara, Katsuhiko Sone, and Takeshi Tomomasa

Age Dependence of Complete Heart Block Complicating Radiofrequency Ablation of the Atrioventricular Nodal Slow Pathway **390**
Monther Boulos, David Hoch, Stuart Schecter, Steven Greenberg, and Joseph Levine

Intracardiac Shunts Resulting from Transseptal Catheterization for Ablation of Accessory Pathways in Otherwise Normal Hearts **391**
David J. Kessler, Mark J. Pirwitz, Rodney P. Horton, Robert C. Canby, Patrick J. Welch, Jose A. Joglar, Mohamed H. Hamdan, Richard A. Lange, and Richard L. Page

Factors Associated With Implantation of Single- Versus Dual-Chamber Pacemakers in 1992 ..... **392**
W. Randolph Daley

Influence of Insurance Coverage on Delays in Seeking Emergency Care in Patients With Acute Chest Pain **395**
David L. Brown, Diane L. Schneider, Robert Colbert, and David Guss

Late Results of Balloon Pulmonary Valvuloplasty in Adults **398**
Mohammad ali Sadr-Ameli, Farhad Sheikholeslami, Iraj Firoozi, and Hossein Azarnik

Mathematic Validation of a Shorthand Rule for Calculating QT_c **400**
Colin K.L. Phoon

CASE REPORTS

Development of Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy from Nonobstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy **403**
Masashi Horimoto, Kouichi Yokota, Hitoki Inoue, Takashi Takenaka, Hirosato Doi, Takemi Ohno, and Morie Sekiguchi

READERS' COMMENTS **406**

AUGUST 6, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 3A

A Symposium: New Insights Into the Pathogenesis and Management of Coronary Artery Disease

AUGUST 15, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 4

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Estrogen Replacement Therapy and Outcome of Coronary Balloon Angioplasty in Postmenopausal Women **409**
Subhi A. Abu-Halawa, Kara Thompson, Richard L. Kirkeeide, William K. Vaughn, Oscar Rosales, Ken Fujisi, George Schroth, Richard Smalling, and H. Vernon Anderson

Cost-Effectiveness of Vitamin E Therapy in the Treatment of Patients With Angiographically Proven Coronary Narrowing (CHAOS Trial) **414**
Peter J. Davey, Mark Schulz, Michael Gliksman, Matthew Dobson, Michael Aristides, and Nigel G. Stephens

Twelve-Year Outcome of Patients With an Abnormal Exercise Radionuclide Left Ventricular Angiogram and Angiographically Insignificant Coronary Artery Disease **418**
John H. Haley, Todd D. Miller, Timothy F. Christian, David O. Hodge, Amir Lerman, and Raymond J. Gibbons

Clinical, Intravascular Ultrasound, and Quantitative Angiographic Determinants of the Coronary Flow Reserve Before and After Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty **423**
Alexandre Abizaid, Gary S. Mintz, Augusto D. Pichard, Kenneth M. Kent, Lowell F. Satler, Carol L. Walsh, Jeffrey J. Popma, and Martin B. Leon

Efficacy of Radiofrequency Catheter Ablation for Ventricular Tachycardia in Healed Myocardial Infarction **429**
David J. Callans, Erica Zado, Brian H. Sarter, David Schwartzman, Charles D. Gottlieb, and Francis E. Marchlinski

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Effectiveness of Fixed Minidose *Warfarin* in the Prevention of Thromboembolism and Vascular Death in Nonrheumatic Atrial Fibrillation **433**

Vittorio Pengo, Antonella Zasso, Fabio Barbero, Alberto Banzato, Giovanni Nante, Lucia Parissenti, Nancy John, Franco Noventa, and Sergio Dalla Volta

Abnormality of Alpha-Adrenergic Vascular Response in Patients With Neurally Mediated Syncope **438**
Takuya Ono, Hirokazu Saitoh, Hirotsugu Atarashi, and Hirokazu Hayakawa

Recipient-to-Donor Atrioatrial Conduction After Orthotopic Heart Transplantation: Surface Electrocardiographic Features and Estimated Prevalence **444**
David C. Lefroy, James C. Fang, Lynne W. Stevenson, L. Howard Hartley, Peter L. Friedman, and William G. Stevenson

Predictors of Fluoroscopy Time and Estimated Radiation Exposure During Radiofrequency Catheter Ablation Procedures **451**
Lawrence S. Rosenthal, Mahadevappa Mahesh, Thomas J. Beck, J. Phillip Saul, John M. Miller, Neal Kay, Lawrence S. Klein, Stephen Huang, Paul Gillette, Eric Prystowsky, Mark Carlson, Ronald D. Berger, John H. Lawrence, Patrick Yong, and Hugh Calkins

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Alteration of the Alveolar-Capillary Membrane Diffusing Capacity in Chronic Left Heart Disease **459**
Patrick Assayag, Hakim Benamer, Pierre Aubry, Carole de Picciotto, Eric Brochet, Sophie Besse, and Françoise Camus

Impact of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitor Underdosing on Rehospitalization Rates in Congestive Heart Failure **465**
Aileen Bown Luzier, Alan Forrest, Martin Adelman, Feras I. Hawari, Jerome J. Schentag, and Joseph L. Izzo, Jr.

CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

Usefulness of Preoperative Echocardiography in Predicting Left Ventricular Outflow Obstruction After Primary Repair of Interrupted Aortic Arch With Ventricular Septal Defect **470**
Howard D. Apfel, Joseph Levenbraun, Jan M. Quaegebeur, and Lindsey D. Allan

MISCELLANEOUS

Reduced Penetrance and Variable Expressivity of Familial Thoracic Aortic Aneurysms/Dissections **474**
Dianna M. Milewicz, Hua Chen, Eun-Sook Park, Elizabeth M. Petty, Hedayatollah Zaghi, G. Shashidhar Pai, Marcia Willing, and Vasant Patel

Pacemaker Infective Endocarditis **480**
Patrice Cacoub, Pascal Leprince, Patrick Nataf, Pierre Hausfater, Richard Dorent, Bertrand Wechsler, Valéria Bors, Alain Pavie, Jean Charles Piette, and Iradj Gandjbakhch

METHODS

A Simple Nomogram for Determination of Echocardiographic Left Ventricular Geometry **485**
Wilfred F. Heesen, Frank W. Beltman, Andries J. Smit, and Johan F. May

INTERVIEW

NORMAN MAYER KAPLAN, MD: A Conversation With the Editor **490**

EDITORIAL

Relative Risk Reduction Versus Number Needed to Treat as Measures of Lipid-Lowering Trial Results **505**
Patrick M. Moriarty

BRIEF REPORTS

Angiographic Correlates of "Spotty" Coronary Artery Calcium Detected by Electron-Beam Computed Tomography in Patients With Normal or Near-Normal Coronary Angiograms **508**
Axel Schmermund, John A. Rumberger, Joseph F. Colter, Patrick F. Sheedy II, and Robert S. Schwartz

Effect of Direct Thrombin Inhibition With *Bivalirudin (Hirulog)* on Restenosis After Coronary Angioplasty **511**
J.E.B. Burchenal, David S. Marks, J. Tift Mann, Marc J. Schweiger, Martin T. Rothman, Peter Ganz, Burt Adelman, and John A. Bittl

Predictive Value of C-Reactive Protein After Successful Coronary Artery Stenting in Patients With Stable Angina **515**
Achille Gaspardone, Filippo Crea, Francesco Versaci, Fabrizio Tomai, Antonio Pellegrino, Luigi Chiariello, and Pier A. Gioffrè

Complications Associated With Combined Use of *Abciximab* and an Intracoronary Thrombolytic Agent (*Urokinase* or *Tissue-Type Plasminogen Activator*) **518**
Ricardo A. Yaryura, Munir Zaqqa, and James J. Ferguson

***Dipyridamole-Dobutamine* Stress With Tc-99m Sestamibi Tomographic Myocardial Perfusion Imaging** **520**
Adel R. Shehata, Alan W. Ahlberg, Michael P. White, April Russell, Irene A. Fleming, Michael G. Levine, Jeffrey F. Mather, David Waters, and Gary V. Heller

Role of Platelet Glycoprotein $PL^{A1/A2}$ Polymorphism in Restenosis After Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty **524**
Rosanna Abbate, Rossella Marcucci, Camacho-Vanegas Olga, Guglielmina Pepe, Anna Maria Gori, Monia Capanni, Ignazio Simonetti, Domenico Prisco, and Gian Franco Gensini

Duration of Complete Atrioventricular Block After Congenital Heart Disease Surgery **525**
Steven N. Weindling, J. Philip Saul, Walter J. Gamble, John E. Mayer, Jr., David Wessel, and Edward P. Walsh

Reverse Alternating Wenckebach Periods and Other Modes of Regression of ≥8:1 to 2:1 Atrioventricular Block 528
Agustin Castellanos, Federico Moleiro, Juan A. Pastor, Alberto Interian Jr, and Robert J. Myerburg

Heart Rate Variability in Inappropriate Sinus Tachycardia 531
Agustin Castellanos, Federico Moleiro, Simon Chakko, Helbert Acosta, Heikki Huikuri, Raul D. Mitrani, and Robert J. Myerburg

Evaluation of the Mitral Annulus by Extracted Three-Dimensional Images in Patients With an Annuloplasty Ring 534
Yasuko Yamaura, Kiyoshi Yoshida, Takeshi Hozumi, Takashi Akasaka, Shigefumi Morioka, and Junichi Yoshikawa

Comparison of Clinical Features and Prognosis of Cardiac Sarcoidosis and Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy 537
Yoshikazu Yazaki, Mitsuaki Isobe, Shinya Hiramitsu, Shin-ichiro Morimoto, Michiaki Hiroe, Chikaya Omichi, Takeshi Nakano, Makihiko Saeki, Tohru Izumi, and Morie Sekiguchi

Usefulness of *Tacrolimus* Versus *Cyclosporine* After Pediatric Heart Transplantation 541
Gilbert Z. Herzberg, Anthony F. Rossi, Mary Courtney, Steven L. Lansman, Bruce D. Gelb, Ira A. Parness, and Wyman W. Lai

Comparison of Cardiology Training Programs in Canada and the United States 544
Mark J. Eisenberg and Philippe Garzon

AUGUST 20, 1998, VOL 82, NO. 4A

A Symposium: Cardiac Arrhythmias: Current Management Update

AUGUST 27, 1998, VOL 82, NO. 4B

A Symposium: Cerivastatin: Clinical Efficacy and Safety in the Management of Hyperlipidemia

SEPTEMBER 1, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 5

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Importance of Diabetes Mellitus and Systemic Hypertension Rather than Completeness of Revascularization in Determining Long-Term Outcome After Coronary Balloon Angioplasty (The LDCMC Registry) 547
David A. Halon, Amnon Merdler, Moshe Y. Flugelman, Galia Shifroni, Nader Khader, Avinoam Shiran, Johnny Shahla, and Basil S. Lewis

Incidence, Consequences, and Risk Factors of Early Reocclusion After Primary and/or Rescue Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty for Acute Myocardial Infarction 554
Philippe Garot, Dominique Himbert, Jean-Michel Juliard, Jean-Louis Golmard, and Philippe Gabriel Steg

Metabolic Changes in Hibernating Myocardium After Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty and the Relation Between Recovery in Left Ventricular Function and Free Fatty Acid Metabolism 559
Tsuyoshi Shimonagata, Shinsuke Nanto, Hideo Kusuoka, Tomoki Ohara, Kayoko Inoue, Setsuko Yamada, Yoshiko Nishimura, Noboru Matsubara, Masatsugu Hori, Tsunehiko Nishimura, and Syujiro Kubori

Usefulness of Isometric Hand Grip Exercise in Detecting Coronary Artery Disease During *Dobutamine* Atropine Stress Echocardiography in Patients With Either Stable Angina Pectoris or Another Type of Positive Stress Test 564
Imran Afridi, Michael L. Main, David L. Parrish, Ali Kizilbash, Benjamin D. Levine, and Paul A. Grayburn

Usefulness of Exercise Echocardiography in Predicting Cardiac Events in an Outpatient Population 569
Mushabbar A. Syed, Qahtan Al-Malki, Ghassan Kazmouz, Houssam Kharrat, Abbas S. Ali, Gordon Jacobsen, and Syed M. Jafri

Developing and Testing a System to Improve the Quality of Heparin Anticoagulation in Patients With Acute Cardiac Syndromes 574
Dennis Mungall, Matt Lord, Susan Cason, Phillip Treadwell, Dennis Williams, and David Tedrick

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Risk of Thromboembolic Events in Patients With Atrial Flutter 580
Karlheinz Seidl, Bernd Hauer, Nicola G. Schwick, Dietmar Zellner, Ralf Zahn, and Jochen Senges

Comparison Between *Propafenone* and *Digoxin* Administered Intravenously to Patients With Acute Atrial Fibrillation 584
Leopoldo Bianconi and Mauro Mennuni, for the PAFIT-3 Investigators

Radiofrequency Catheter Ablation Versus Medical Therapy for Initial Treatment of Supraventricular Tachycardia and Its Impact on Quality of Life and Healthcare Costs 589
Murali N. Bathina, Steve Mickelsen, Conni Brooks, Joe Jaramillo, Trish Hepton, and Fred M. Kusumoto

Electrocardiographic Conduction Disturbances in Association With Low-Level Lead Exposure (the Normative Aging Study) 594
Yawen Cheng, Joel Schwartz, Pantel S. Vokonas, Scott T. Weiss, Antonio Aro, and Howard Hu

Changes in Pacing Lead Impedance Over Time Predict Lead Failure **600**
M. Nabi Sharif, D. George Wyse, John M. Rothschild, and Anne M. Gillis

SYSTEMIC HYPERTENSION

Comparison in Systemic Hypertension of Left Ventricular Mass and Geometry With Systolic and Diastolic Function in Patients <65 to ≥65 Years of Age **604**
Miguel Zabalgoitia, S. Noor Ur Rahman, William E. Haley, Rosario Mercado, Carla Yunis, Charles Lucas, Steven Yarows, Lisa Krause, and John Amarena

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

The Influence of Basal Nitric Oxide Activity on Pulmonary Vascular Resistance in Patients With Congestive Heart Failure **609**
Christopher J. Cooper, Frank W. Jevnikar, Thomas Walsh, Joanne Dickinson, Assad Mouhaffel, Andrew P. Selwyn

MISCELLANEOUS

Increased Ventricular Repolarization Inhomogeneity During Postural Changes in Patients With Syndrome X **615**
Tsung-Ming Lee, Sheng-Fang Su, Tzung-Dau Wang, Wen-Lin Wang, Ming-Fong Chen, Chiau-Suong Liau, Yuan-Teh Lee, and Chang-Her Tsai

Relation of Age to Left Ventricular Function in Clinically Normal Adults **621**
David J. Slotwiner, Richard B. Devereux, Joseph E. Schwartz, Thomas G. Pickering, Giovanni de Simone, Antonello Ganau, Pier S. Saba, and Mary J. Roman

Comparison of Cardiac Findings at Necropsy in Octogenarians, Nonagenarians, and Centenarians **627**
William Clifford Roberts and Jamshid Shirani

METHODS

Influence of Guidewire and Catheter Type on the Frequency of Cerebral Microembolic Signals During Left Heart Catheterization **632**
Sigrun K. Brækken, Knut Endresen, David Russell, Rainer Brucher, and John Kjekshus

EDITORIAL

Thrombolism With Atrial Flutter **638**
Marvin I. Dunn

INTERVIEW

ROBERT McKINNON CALIFF, MD, A Conversation With the Editor **639**
William C. Roberts

BRIEF REPORTS

Initial Results of Laser-Based Percutaneous Myocardial Revascularization for Angina Pectoris **659**
Stephen N. Oesterle, Nicolaus J. Reifart, Bernhard Meier, Bernward Lauer, and Gerhard C. Schuler

Prognosis of Medically Stabilized Unstable Angina Pectoris With a Negative Exercise Test **662**
Raúl Moreno, MD, Esteban López de Sá, José-Luis López-Sendón, Ana Ortega, Maria-Jesús Fernández, Jaime Fernández-Bobadilla, and Juan-Luis Delcán

Diagnosing Coronary Arterial Stent Thrombosis and Arterial Closure **666**
Steven E. Hearne, Peter B. Amsterdam, William A. Baker, Steven R. Sawchak, Harry R. Phillips, Michael H. Sketch, Jr., and James P. Zidar

Underutilization of Lipid-Lowering Drugs in Older Persons With Prior Myocardial Infarction and a Serum Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol >125 mg/dl **668**
Wilbert S. Aronow

Intravascular Ultrasound Findings in Stenting of Unprotected Left Main Coronary Artery Stenosis **670**
Myeong-Ki Hong, Seong-Wook Park, Cheol Whan Lee, Duk-Hyun Kang, Jae-Kwan Song, Jae-Joong Kim, Seung-Jung Park, Mun K. Hong, Gary S. Mintz, and Martin B. Leon

Local Administration of L-703,081 Using a Composite Polymeric Stent Reduces Platelet Deposition in Canine Coronary Arteries **673**
Renato M. Santos, Jean-François Tanguay, James J. Crowley, Kevin R. Kruse, Debbie Sanders-Millare, James P. Zidar, Harry R. Phillips, Yahye Merhi, Elias Garcia-Cantu, Raoul Bonan, Gilles Côté, and Richard S. Stack

Clinical Reliability of Single-Lead VDD Pacing from Evaluation of P-Wave Sensing Under Dynamic Conditions **676**
Giuseppe Boriani, Mauro Biffi, Alberto Bandini, Andrea Pettini, Pier Vittorio Moracchini, Mauro Giuliani, Alessandro Capucci, Franca Groppi, Riccardo Sigliano, and Antonio Mininno

Effects of *Adenosine* on Retrograde Refractoriness of Accessory Atrioventricular Connections **680**
Glenn Kabell, Raffaele Corbisiero, Glenn D. Miller, Thomas F. Fitzgerald, James R. Cook, and James B. Kirchhoffer

Estimating the Proportion of Post-Myocardial Infarction Patients Who May Benefit from Prophylactic Implantable Defibrillator Placement from Analysis of the CAST Registry **683**
Nathan R. Every, Mark A. Hlatky, Kathryn M. McDonald, W. Douglas Weaver, and Alfred P. Hallstrom

Impact of a Nurse Practitioner on the Cost of Managing Inpatients With Heart Failure **686**
Karen L. Dahle, Jane S. Smith, Gail L. Ingersoll, and John R. Wilson

Serum Interleukin-6 in Congestive Heart Failure Secondary to Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy 688
Eulàlia Roig, Josefina Orús, Carles Paré, Manel Azqueta, Xavier Filella, Felix Perez-Villa, Magda Heras, and Ginés Sanz

Comparison of Three Different Atrial Septal Defect Occlusion Devices 690
Roberto Formigari, Giuseppe Santoro, Lucia Rossetti, Gabriele Rinelli, Paolo Guccione, and Luigi Ballerini

Effects of Pulmonary Balloon Valvuloplasty on Right Coronary Artery Blood Flow in Pulmonary Valve Stenosis 692
Ioannis E. Kallikazaros, Costas G. Stratos, Costas P. Tsioufis, Christodoulos I. Stefanadis, and Pavlos K. Toutouzas

Risk of Atrioventricular Block During *Adenosine* Pharmacologic Stress Testing in Heart Transplant Recipients 696
Jens Toft, Jann Mortensen, and Birger Hesse

Effect of *Niacin* Supplementation on Fibrinogen Levels in Patients With Peripheral Vascular Disease 697
Claire S. Philipp, Laura A. Cisar, Parvin Saidi, and John B. Kostis

Hemodynamic Effects of *Arbutamine* 699
J. David Ogilby, Barry Molk, and Ami E. Iskandrian

READERS' COMMENTS 703

SEPTEMBER 3, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 5A

A Symposium: Metabolic Management of Ischemia Heart Disease

SEPTEMBER 10, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 5B

A Symposium: Low-Molecular-Weight Heparins in Arterial Thrombosis: Managing Cardiovascular Disorders

SEPTEMBER 15, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 6

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

***Abciximab* Administration and Outcome After Intracoronary Stent Implantation** 705
David Hasdai, Charanjit S. Rihal, Malcolm R. Bell, Peter B. Berger, Diane E. Grill, Kirk N. Garratt, and David R. Holmes, Jr.

Comparison of Coronary Endothelial Dynamics With Electrocardiographic and Left Ventricular Contractile Responses to Stress in the Absence of Coronary Artery Disease 710
Richard O. Cannon III, Rodolfo V. Curiel, Abhiram Prasad, Arshed A. Quyyumi, and Julio A. Panza

Incremental Prognostic Value of Serum Levels of Troponin T and C-Reactive Protein on Admission in Patients With Unstable Angina Pectoris 715
Antonio G. Rebuzzi, Gaetano Quaranta, Giovanna Liuzzo, Giuseppina Caligiuri, Gaetano A. Lanza, J. Ruth Gallimore, Rita L. Grillo, Domenico Cianflone, Luigi M. Biasucci, and Attilio Maseri

Risk Stratification of Patients With Medically Treated Unstable Angina Using Exercise Echocardiography 720
Steve S. Lin, Michael S. Lauer, and Thomas H. Marwick

Incremental Prognostic Value of *Adenosine* Myocardial Perfusion Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography in Women With Suspected Coronary Artery Disease .725
Aman M. Amanullah, Daniel S. Berman, Jacob Erel, Hosen Kiat, Ishac Cohen, Guido Germano, John D. Friedman, and Rory Hachamovitch

Invasive Versus Conservative Strategies in Unstable Angina and Non–Q-Wave Myocardial Infarction Following Treatment With *Tirofiban*: Rationale and Study Design of the International TACTICS-TIMI 18 Trial 731
Christopher P. Cannon, William S. Weintraub, Laura A. Demopoulos, Deborah H. Robertson, Glenn J. Gormley, and Eugene Braunwald, for the TACTICS-TIMI 18 Investigators

PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY

Effectiveness of Once-Nightly Dosing of Extended-Release Niacin Alone and in Combination for Hypercholesterolemia 737
John R. Guyton, Anne C. Goldberg, Robert A. Kreisberg, Dennis L. Sprecher, H. Robert Superko, and Christopher M. O'Connor

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Comparison of *Metoprolol* and *Sotalol* in Preventing Ventricular Tachyarrhythmias After the Implantation of a Cardioverter/Defibrillator 744
Karlheinz Seidl, Bernd Hauer, Nicola G. Schwick, Ralf Zahn, and Jochen Senges

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Effects of Prostacyclin on the Pulmonary Vascular Tone and Cardiac Contractility of Patients With Pulmonary Hypertension Secondary to End-Stage Heart Failure ..749
Gilles Montalescot, Gérard Drobinski, Philippe Meurin, Jacques Maclouf, Ivan Sotirov, François Philippe, Rémi Choussat, Elisabeth Morin, and Daniel Thomas

Increasing Degrees of Left Ventricular Filling Impairment Modulate Left Atrial Function in Humans 756
Antonia Prioli, Paolo Marino, Laura Lanzoni, and Piero Zardini

Comparison of Effects of Ascorbic Acid on Endothelium-Dependent Vasodilation in Patients With Chronic Congestive Heart Failure Secondary to Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy Versus Patients With Effort Angina Pectoris Secondary to Coronary Artery Disease **762**
Keiichi Ito, Hozuka Akita, Kenji Kanazawa, Shinichiro Yamada, Masahiro Terashima, Yasuaki Matsuda, and Mitsuhiro Yokoyama

VALVULAR HEART DISEASE

Likelihood of Underreporting of Outlet Strut Fracture from Examination of the Dutch Björk-Shiley CC Cohort **768**
Marjon Kallewaard, Ale Algra, Jo Defauw, Diederick Grobbee, and Yolanda van der Graaf, for the Björk-Shiley Study Group

CARDIOMYOPATHY

Predictors of Sudden Cardiac Death in Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy **774**
Sanae Maki, Hisao Ikeda, Aiko Muro, Noriko Yoshida, Akira Shibata, Yoshinori Koga, and Tsutomu Imaizumi

Risk Stratification in Patients With Dilated Cardiomyopathy: Contribution of Doppler-Derived Left Ventricular Filling **779**
Rigobert Lapu-Bula, Annie Robert, Martine De Kock, Anne-Marie D'Hondt, Jean-Marie R. Detry, Jacques A. Melin, and Jean-Louis Vanoverschelde

CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

Outcome of Pregnancy Following Intervention for Coarctation of the Aorta **786**
Arwa S. Saidi, Louis I. Bezold, Carolyn A. Altman, Nancy A. Ayres, and J. Timothy Bricker

MISCELLANEOUS

Nosocomial Infections in Coronary Care Units in the United States **789**
Michael J. Richards, Jonathan R. Edwards, David H. Culver, Robert P. Gaynes, and the National Nosocomial Infections Surveillance System

METHODS

Use of Harmonic Imaging Without Echocardiographic Contrast to Improve Two-Dimensional Image Quality **794**
Kirk T. Spencer, James Bednarz, Patrick G. Rafter, Claudia Korcarz, and Roberto M. Lang

BRIEF REPORTS

"Rescue" *Abciximab* for Complicated Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty **800**
Eric Garbarz, Bruno Farah, Alain Vuillemenot, Francis André, Michaël Angioï, Jacques Machecourt, Jean Pierre Bassand, Jean Eric Wolf, Nicolas Danchin, Bernard Prendergast, Bernard Iung, and Alec Vahanian

Clinical and Angiographic Outcome After Stent Placement for Chronic Coronary Occlusion **803**
Shpend Elezi, Adnan Kastrati, Anne Wehinger, Hanna Walter, Helmut Schühlen, Martin Hadamitzky, Josef Dirschinger, Franz-Josef Neumann, and Albert Schömig

Myocardial Doppler Velocity Imaging—A Quantitative Technique for Interpretation of *Dobutamine* Echocardiography **806**
Elina Yamada, Mario Garcia, James D. Thomas, and Thomas H. Marwick

Electrocardiographic Correlates of Absent Septal q Waves **809**
Thomas C. Mathew, Lakshmiprasad Shankariah, and David H. Spodick

Comparison of Double Bolus *Urokinase* Versus Front-Loaded *Alteplase* Regimen for Acute Myocardial Infarction **811**
Seung-Jung Park, for the Thrombolysis in Myocardial Infarction in Korea (TIMIKO) Study Group

Increased QT_c Dispersion Predicts Lethal Ventricular Arrhythmias Complicating Coronary Angioplasty **814**
Takashi Ashikaga, Mitsuhiro Nishizaki, Masataka Arita, Noriyoshi Yamawake, Yukio Kishi, Fujio Numano, and Masayasu Hiraoka

Impact of Heart Rate and Atrioventricular Delay on Left Ventricular Diastolic Filling in Patients With Dual-Chamber Pacing for Sick Sinus Syndrome or Atrioventricular Block **816**
Marcello de Divitiis, Maurizio Galderisi, Lucio Santangelo, Maria Serena Mayer, Oreste de Divitiis, and Aldo Iacono

Usefulness of Intravenous *Metoprolol* to Prevent Syncope Induced by Head-Up Tilt **820**
Jeffrey Kluger, Munama Bazunga, Richard Goldman, Eleanor O'Rangers, Peter Azar, and Moses S.S. Chow

A Family Study of Anterior Mitral Leaflet Thickness and Mitral Valve Prolapse **823**
Alfredo Zuppiroli, Mary J. Roman, Michael O'Grady, and Richard B. Devereux

Results of Transvenous Buttoned Device Occlusion of Patent Ductus Arteriosus in Adults **827**
P. Syamasundar Rao, Seong Ho Kim, Christian Rey, Eustaquio Onorato, and Eleftherios B. Sideris, for the International Buttoned Device Trial Group

Effect of *Atenolol* or *Metoprolol* on *Arbutamine* Stress Echocardiography in Patients Suspected of Having Coronary Artery Disease **830**
Neil J. Weissman, Steven J. Sheris, Michael H. Picard, David S. Bach, Joel Sklar, and Jerald L. Cohen

Detecting Exercise-Induced Ischemia in Left Bundle Branch Block Using the Electrocardiogram **832**

Nagi S. Ibrahim, Ronald S. Selvester, James M. Hagar, and Myrvin H. Ellestad

READERS' COMMENTS 836

SEPTEMBER 24, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 6A

The Lipoprotein and Coronary Atherosclerosis Study (LCAS) in Context: Assessing the Benefits of Lipid-Lowering Therapy

OCTOBER 1, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 7

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Intracoronary Aspiration Thrombectomy for Acute Myocardial Infarction 839
Tatsuaki Murakami, Sumio Mizuno, Yoshifumi Takahashi, Kazuo Ohsato, Ikuo Moriuchi, Yoshiyuki Arai, Junichiro Mifune, Masami Shimizu, and Masateru Ohnaka

Comparison of the Prognostic Value of C-Reactive Protein and Troponin I in Patients With Unstable Angina Pectoris 845
Hakim Benamer, Philippe Gabriel Steg, Joelle Benessiano, Eric Vicaut, Cedric J. Gaultier, Albert Boccara, Pierre Aubry, Pascale Nicaise, Eric Brochet, Jean-Michel Juliard, Dominique Himbert, and Patrick Assayag

Depression and the Risk of Coronary Heart Disease in the Normative Aging Study 851
Howard D. Sesso, Ichiro Kawachi, Pantel S. Vokonas, and David Sparrow

Accuracy of Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography Myocardial Perfusion Imaging in Patients With Coronary Artery Stents 857
James J. Milavetz, Todd D. Miller, David O. Hodge, David R. Holmes, and Raymond J. Gibbons

Impaired Baroreflex Sensitivity and Sympathovagal Balance in Syndrome X 862
Stamatis Adamopoulos, Giuseppe M.C. Rosano, Piotr Ponikowski, Elena Cerquetani, Massimo Piepoli, Flevari Panagiota, Peter Collins, Philip Poole-Wilson, Dimitrios Kremastinos, and Andrew J.S. Coats

Power Spectral Analysis of Heart Period Variability of Preceding Sinus Rhythm Before Initiation of Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation 869
Bengt Herweg, Prateek Dalal, Bibiana Nagy, and Paul Schweitzer

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Comparison of Results in Two Implantable Defibrillators 875
Antonio Pacifico, James W. Johnson, Marshall S. Stanton, David M. Steinhaus, Robert Gabler, Timothy Church, and Philip D. Henry, for the Jewel 7219D Investigators

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Effect of *Amlodipine* on Mode of Death Among Patients With Advanced Heart Failure in the PRAISE Trial 881
Christopher M. O'Connor, Peter E. Carson, Alan B. Miller, Milton L. Pressler, Robert N. Belkin, Gerald W. Neuberg, David J. Frid, Anne B. Cropp, Susan Anderson, John H. Wertheimer, and David L. DeMets, for the PRAISE Investigators

Undetected Cardiogenic Shock in Patients With Congestive Heart Failure Presenting to the Emergency Department 888
Douglas S. Ander, Michael Jaggi, Emanuel Rivers, Mohamed Y. Rady, T. Barry Levine, Arlene B. Levine, Julie Masura, and Mary Gryzbowski

VALVULAR HEART DISEASE

Analysis of Risk Factors for Development of Atrial Fibrillation Early After Cardiac Valvular Surgery 892
Craig R. Asher, Dave P. Miller, Richard A. Grimm, Delos M. Cosgrove III, and Mina K. Chung

EDITORIAL

Coronary Thrombosis During Acute Myocardial Infarction: Roberts Was Right! 896
William W. O'Neill

BRIEF REPORTS

Effects of *Trimetazidine* on Ischemic Left Ventricular Dysfunction in Patients With Coronary Artery Disease 898
Chunzeng Lu, Pawel Dabrowski, Gabriele Fragasso, and Sergio L. Chierchia

Risk Factors for New Coronary Events in Older African-American Men and Women 902
Wilbert S. Aronow and Chul Ahn

Reproducibility of Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing in Elderly Patients With Congestive Heart Failure 905
Christian T. Marburger, Peter H. Brubaker, William E. Pollock, Timothy M. Morgan, and Dalane W. Kitzman

Usefulness of Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation for Treatment of Fulminant Myocarditis and Circulatory Collapse 910
Koji Kawahito, Sei-Ichiro Murata, Takanori Yasu, Hideo Adachi, Takashi Ino, Muneyasu Saito, Yoshio Misawa, Katsuo Fuse, and Kazuyuki Shimada

Left Ventricular Morphology in Elite Female Resistance-Trained Athletes 912
Mark J. Haykowsky, Rosalind Gillis, Arthur Quinney, Andrew P. Ignaszewski, and Christopher R. Thompson

A Noninvasive Method for Estimating Cardiac Output Using Lung to Finger Circulation Time of Oxygen 915

Babak Kasravi, John P. Boehmer, and Urs A. Leuenberger

READERS' COMMENTS **918**

OCTOBER 15, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 8

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Coronary Blood Flow Dynamics During Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation for Stable Angina Pectoris Associated With Severe Narrowing of One Major Coronary Artery **921**
Gillian A.J. Jessurun, René A. Tio, Mike J.L. De Jongste, Raymond W.M. Hautvast, Peter Den Heijer, and Harry J.G.M Crijns

Effectiveness of Three Different Doses of *Carvedilol* for Exertional Angina **927**
Robert Weiss, David Ferry, Edward Pickering, L. Kent Smith, George Dennish III, Sue Krug-Gourley, and Mary Ann Lukas, on behalf of the Carvedilol-Angina Study Group

Relation Between ST-Segment Changes and Myocardial Perfusion Evaluated by Myocardial Contrast Echocardiography in Patients With Acute Myocardial Infarction Treated With Direct Angioplasty **932**
Giovanni M. Santoro, Renato Valenti, Piergiovanni Buonamici, Leonardo Bolognese, Giampaolo Cerisano, Guia Moschi, Maurizio Trapani, David Antoniucci, and Pier Filippo Fazzini

Procoagulant Inflammatory Responses of Monocytes After Direct Balloon Angioplasty in Acute Myocardial Infarction **938**
Ilka Ott, Franz-Josef Neumann, Silke Kenngott, Meinrad Gawaz, and Albert Schömig

Placement of Coronary Stents in Bifurcation Lesions by the "Culotte" Technique **943**
Bernard Chevalier, Bernard Glatt, Thierry Royer, and Philippe Guyon

PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY

Effect of Smoking Cessation on Exercise Performance in Female Smokers Participating in Exercise Training **950**
Ann E. Albrecht, Bess H. Marcus, Mary Roberts, Daniel E. Forman, and Alfred F. Parisi

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Characteristics, Management, and Midterm Outcome in Infants With Atrioventricular Nodal Reentry Tachycardia **956**
Gil J. Gross, Michael R. Epstein, Edward P. Walsh, and J. Philip Saul

SYSTEMIC HYPERTENSION

Effects of *Candesartan Cilexetil* in Patients With Systemic Hypertension **961**
Max Reif, William B.White, Timothy C. Fagan, Suzanne Oparil, Terry L. Flanagan, Dianne T. Edwards, Daniel J. Cushing, and Eric L. Michelson, for the Candesartan Cilexetil Study Investigators

MISCELLANEOUS

Comparison of *Alteplase* Versus *Heparin* for Resolution of Major Pulmonary Embolism **966**
Stavros Konstantinides, Nikolaus Tiede, Annette Geibel, Manfred Olschewski, Hanjörg Just, and Wolfgang Kasper

BRIEF REPORTS

Prognostic Implications of Detection of Troponin I in Patients With Unstable Angina Pectoris **971**
Elvis Brscic, Isabella Chiappino, Serena Bergerone, Giacomo Lanfranco, Loredana Mainardi, Massimo Imazio, Claudia Amellone, Roberto Pagni, and Erennio Rosettani

Cardiac Troponin I and Creatine Kinase-MB Mass to Rule Out Myocardial Injury in Hospitalized Patients With Renal Insufficiency **973**
Mary D. McLaurin, Fred S. Apple, Alireza Falahati, MaryAnne M. Murakami, Elizabeth A. Miller, and Scott W. Sharkey

Results of Stenting of Unprotected Left Main Coronary Artery Stenosis in Patients at High Surgical Risk **975**
Carma Karam, Jean Fajadet, Bernard Cassagneau, Jean-Pierre Laurent, Christian Jordan, Jean-Claude Laborde, and Jean Marco

Chymase Gene Locus Is Not Associated With Myocardial Infarction and Is Not Linked to Heart Size or Blood Pressure **979**
Arne Pfeufer, Andreas Busjahn, Athanasios Vergopoulos, Hans Knoblauch, Hidenori Urata, Karl Josef Osterziel, Marianne Menz, Thomas F. Wienker, Hans Dieter Faulhaber, Armin Steinmetz, Herbert Schuster, Rainer Dietz, and Friedrich C. Luft

Usefulness of *Abciximab* for Treatment of Early Coronary Artery Stent Thrombosis **981**
Ivan P. Casserly, David Hasdai, Peter B. Berger, David R. Holmes, Jr., Robert S. Schwartz, and Malcolm R. Bell

Late Coronary Angioplasty and Venticular Late Potential **985**
Eale Lomama, Gérard Helft, Anne Persoz, and André Vacheron

Secondary Prevention Practices After Acute Myocardial Infarction in a Large City Hospital **987**
Tom A. Elasy and Philip S. Mehler

Ablation of Right and Left Ectopic Atrial Tachycardias Using a Three-Dimensional Nonfluoroscopic Mapping System **989**
Andrea Natale, Larry Breeding, Gery Tomassoni, Kathleen Rajkovich, Mark Richey, Salwa Beheiry, Katie Martinez, Lisa Cromwell, Brandon Wides, and Fabio Leonelli

Effects of Hormone Replacement Therapy on QT Interval 993
Jennifer A. Larsen, Roderick H. Tung, Ramana Sadananda, Jeffrey J. Goldberger, George Horvath, Michele A. Parker, and Alan H. Kadish

CASE REPORTS

Aortic Valve Thickening Associated With Power Training: Is it Pressure Overload? 996
Rob D. Dickerman, Fredrick Schaller, and Walter J. McConathy

Leriche's Syndrome With Total Perfusion of the Left Lower Extremity by Way of the Left Internal Mammary Artery 997
John R. Arnold

READERS' COMMENTS on page 1000

OCTOBER 16, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 8A

A Symposium: Atrial Fibrillation: Mechanism and Management

OCTOBER 22, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 8B

A Symposium: Anticoagulant Therapy: New Promises and Challenges

OCTOBER 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 8C

Tenth Annual Symposium Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics

NOVEMBER 1, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 9

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Thallium Scintigraphy Compared With ^{18}F-Fluorodeoxyglucose Positron Emission Tomography for Assessing Myocardial Viability in Patients With Moderate Versus Severe Left Ventricular Dysfunction 1001
Jose A. Marin-Neto, Vasken Dilsizian, James A. Arrighi, Pasquale Perrone-Filardi, Stephen L. Bacharach, and Robert O. Bonow

Significance of Myocardial Ischemic Electrocardiographic Changes During *Dipyridamole* Stress Echocardiography 1008
Lauro Cortigiani, Massimo Lombardi, Claudio Michelassi, Emilio A. Paolini, and Eugenio Nannini

Presenting Characteristics, Treatment Patterns, and Clinical Outcomes of Non-Black Minorities in the National Registry of Myocardial Infarction 2 1013
John G. Canto, Herman A. Taylor, Jr., William J. Rogers, Bonnie Sanderson, Joseph Hilbe, and Hal V. Barron, for the National Registry of Myocardial Infarction 2 Investigators

Management and Outcomes for Black Patients With Acute Myocardial Infarction in the Reperfusion Era 1019
Herman A. Taylor, Jr., John G. Canto, Bonnie Sanderson, William J. Rogers, and Joseph Hilbe, for the National Registry of Myocardial Infarction 2 Investigators

Usefulness of *Losartan*, *Captopril*, and *Furosemide* in Preventing Nitrate Tolerance and Improving Control of Unstable Angina Pectoris 1024
Gad Cotter, Einat Metzkor-Cotter, Edo Kaluski, Alex Blatt, Irena Litinsky, Yehuda Baumohl, Yaron Moshkovitz, Zvi Vered, Ronit Zaidenstein, and Ahuva Golik

Effect of Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty on Exercise in Patients With and Without Previous Myocardial Infarction 1030
Bjørn Jørgensen, Svein Simonsen, Kolbjørn Forfang, Knut Endresen, and Erik Thaulow

Role of Nitric Oxide in Coronary Arterial Vasomotion and the Influence of Coronary Atherosclerosis and Its Risks 1034
David M. Goodhart and Todd J. Anderson

PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY

Premenopausal Black Women Have More Risk Factors for Coronary Heart Disease Than White Women 1040
Glenn T. Gerhard, Gary Sexton, M. René Malinow, Rosemary C. Wander, Sonja L. Connor, Anuradha S. Pappu, and William E. Connor

Markedly High Prevalence of Coronary Risk Factors in Apparently Healthy African-American and White Siblings of Persons With Premature Coronary Heart Disease 1046
Diane M. Becker, Raphael M. Yook, Taryn F. Moy, Roger S. Blumenthal, and Lewis C. Becker

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Acute Changes in Spontaneous Echo Contrast and Atrial Function After Cardioversion of Persistent Atrial Flutter 1052
Raul Weiss, Pamela Marcovitz, Bradley P. Knight, Marwan Bahu, Joseph J. Souza, Adam Zivin, Rajiva Goyal, Emile G. Daoud, K. Ching Man, S. Adam Strickberger, William F. Armstrong, and Fred Morady

SYSTEMIC HYPERTENSION

Midwall Fractional Shortening Is an Independent Predictor of Left Ventricular Diastolic Dysfunction in Asymptomatic Patients With Systemic Hypertension 1056

Adam E. Schussheim, Joseph A. Diamond, Jeffrey S. Jhang, and Robert A. Phillips

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Effects of Intravenous *Milrinone* Followed by Titration of High-Dose Oral Vasodilator Therapy on Clinical Outcome and Rehospitalization Rates in Patients With Severe Heart Failure **1060**
David A. Cusick, Pamela B. Pfeifer, and Rebecca J. Quigg

VALVULAR HEART DISEASE

Predictors of Left Atrial Thrombus and Spontaneous Echo Contrast in Rheumatic Valve Disease Before and After Mitral Valve Replacement **1066**
Mehmet Özkan, Cihangir Kaymaz, Cevat Kirma, Ali Civelek, Ali Riza Cenal, Cevat Yakut, and Ubeydullah Deligonul

CARDIOMYOPATHY

Prognostic Value of a Doppler Index Combining Systolic and Diastolic Performance in Idiopathic-Dilated Cardiomyopathy **1071**
Karl S. Dujardin, Chuwa Tei, Tiong Cheng Yeo, David O. Hodge, Andrea Rossi, and James B. Seward

MISCELLANEOUS

Acute Hemodynamic Changes During Carotid Artery Stenting **1077**
Farrell O. Mendelsohn, Neil J. Weissman, Robert J. Lederman, James J. Crowley, John L. Gray, Harry R. Phillips, Mark J. Alberts, Richard L. McCann, Tony P. Smith, and Richard S. Stack

EDITORIAL

Evolving Indications for Permanent Cardiac Pacing: An Appraisal of the 1998 American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Guidelines **1082**
David L. Hayes, S. Serge Barold, A. John Camm, and Nora F. Goldschlager

INTERVIEW

BERNARD JOHN GERSH, MD: A Conversation With The Editor **1087**

BRIEF REPORTS

Reduction in the Need for Unplanned Stenting With the Use of Platelet Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa Blockade in Percutaneous Coronary Intervention **1105**
Deepak L. Bhatt, A. Michael Lincoff, Dean J. Kereiakes, James E. Tcheng, Maarten L. Simoons, L. Ron van der Wieken, Nikki Godfrey, Robert M. Califf, and Eric J. Topol

Clinical Experience With the Percutaneous Hemopump During High-Risk Coronary Angioplasty **1107**
Karl H. Scholz, Jean-Luc Dubois-Rande, Philip Urban, Marie Claude Morice, Daniel Loisance, Richard W. Smalling, and Hans R. Figulla

Effects of Changing the Availability of the Substrate for Nitric Oxide Synthase by L-Arginine Administration on Coronary Vasomotor Tone in Angina Patients With Angiographically Narrowed and in Patients With Normal Coronary Arteries **1110**
Dimitris Tousoulis, Graham J. Davies, Costas Tentolouris, Tom Crake, George Katsimaglis, Christodoulos Stefanadis, and Pavlos Toutouzas

Epidcardial Cardioverter-Defibrillators Do Not Cause Postoperative Arrhythmias **1114**
Anne B. Curtis, J. Thomas Bigger, Jr., John P. DiMarco, and Jeffrey L. Anderson, for The CABG Patch Trial Investigators

Response to Head-Up Tilt Testing in Patients With Situational Syncope **1117**
Masataka Sumiyoshi, Yasuro Nakata, Yoriaki Mineda, Touko Shimamoto, Masayuki Yasuda, Yuji Nakazato, and Hiroshi Yamaguchi

Chronotropic Competence of the Sinus Node in Congenital Complete Heart Block **1119**
Anil Menon, Earl Dean Silverman, Robert Malcolm Gow, and Robert Murray Hamilton

Usefulness of *Pindolol* in Neurocardiogenic Syncope **1121**
Demosthenes Iskos, John Dutton, Melvin M. Scheinman, and Keith G. Lurie

High Perimeter Impedance Defibrillation Electrodes Reduce Skin Burns in Transthoracic Cardioversion **1125**
Lawrence A. Garcia, Luis A. Pagan-Carlo, Mary Seabury Stone, and Richard E. Kerber

T-Wave Alternans and Dispersion of the QT Interval as Risk Stratification Markers in Patients Susceptible to Sustained Ventricular Arrhythmias **1127**
Antonis A. Armoundas, Motohisa Osaka, Theofanie Mela, David S. Rosenbaum, Jeremy N. Ruskin, Hasan Garan, and Richard J. Cohen

Increased Prevalence of Significant Tricuspid Regurgitation in Patients With Transvenous Pacemaker Leads. **1130**
David Paniagua, Harry R. Aldrich, Eric H. Lieberman, Gervasio A. Lamas, and Arthur S. Agatston

Effect of Percutaneous Transvenous Mitral Commissurotomy on Postexercise Breathlessness as Determined by Ventilation During Recovery from Constant Workload Exercise **1132**
Yasuhiko Tanabe, Masahiro Ito, Yukio Hosaka, Tadashi Sato, Eiichi Ito, Kaoru Suzuki, and Minoru Takahashi

Results of Biocor Stentless Valve Replacement for Infective Endocarditis of the Native Aortic Valve **1136**

Francesco Santini, Paola Bertolini, Barbara Vecchi, Valentino Borghetti, and Alessandro Mazzucco

Survival in Neonatal Biventricular Repair of Left- Sided Cardiac Obstructive Lesions Associated With Hypoplastic Left Ventricle 1138
Andrew D. Blaufox, Wyman W. Lai, Leo Lopez, Khanh Nguyen, Randall B. Griepp, and Ira A. Parness

Aortic Elastic Properties in Patients With Repaired Coarctation of Aorta 1140
Stella Brili, John Dernellis, Constadina Aggeli, Christos Pitsavos, Costas Hatzos, Christodoulos Stefanadis, and Pavlos Toutouzas

Usefulness of Echocardiography for Detection of Coronary Artery Thrombi in Patients With Kawasaki Disease 1143
L. LuAnn Minich, Lloyd Y. Tani, Luciana T. Pagotto, Paul C. Young, Susan P. Etheridge, and Robert E. Shaddy

Diagnosis of Heterotaxy Syndrome by Fetal Echocardiography 1147
David E. Atkinson and Stacey Drant

***Dobutamine* Magnetic Resonance Imaging With Myocardial Tagging Quantitatively Predicts Improvement in Regional Function After Revascularization** 1149
Dany E. Sayad, DuWayne L. Willett, W. Gregory Hundley, Paul A. Grayburn, and Ronald M. Peshock

Hemodynamic Sequelae of Age-Related Increases in Arterial Stiffness in Healthy Women 1152
Hirofumi Tanaka, Frank A. Dinenno, Brian E. Hunt, Pamela P. Jones, Christopher A. DeSouza, and Douglas R. Seals

Effect of End-Stage Renal Disease on Decreased Heart Rate Variability 1156
Alon A. Steinberg, Ronald L. Mars, Daniel S. Goldman, and Robert F. Percy

Estimation of Shunt Flow in Coronary-Pulmonary Fistula by Lung Perfusion Scintigraphy With Technetium-99m Macroaggregated Albumin 1158
Sei Komatsu, Yasuhiko Sakata, Yasunori Ueda, Yoshiharu Higuchi, Fuminobu Ishikura, Atsushi Hirayama, Masayoshi Mishima, Hideo Kusuoka, Masakazu Hasegawa, and Kazuhisa Kodama

READERS' COMMENTS 1162

NOVEMBER 15, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 10

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Procedural Results and Long-Term Clinical Outcomes Following Coronary Stenting in Perimyocardial Infarction Syndromes 1163
Ran Kornowski, Mun K. Hong, Jorge Saucedo, Lowell F. Satler, Augusto D. Pichard, Kenneth M. Kent, Ann Greenberg, and Martin B. Leon

Intimal Hyperplasia Thickness at Follow-Up Is Independent of Stent Size: A Serial Intravascular Ultrasound Study 1168
Rainer Hoffmann, Gary S. Mintz, Augusto D. Pichard, Kenneth M. Kent, Lowell F. Satler, and Martin B. Leon

The Clinical Implications of No Reflow Demonstrated With Intravenous Perfluorocarbon Containing Microbubbles Following Restoration of Thrombolysis In Myocardial Infarction (TIMI) 3 Flow in Patients With Acute Myocardial Infarction 1173
Thomas R. Porter, Shouping Li, Rebecca Oster, and Ubeydullah Deligonul

Capitation for Cardiologists: Accepting Risk for Coronary Artery Disease Under Managed Care 1178
Robert L. McNamara, Neil R. Powe, Thomas Shaffer, David Thiemann, Wendy Weller, and Gerard Anderson

Mitral Annular Calcium Detected by Transthoracic Echocardiography Is a Marker for High Prevalence and Severity of Coronary Artery Disease in Patients Undergoing Coronary Angiography 1183
Yehuda Adler, Itzhak Herz, Mordehay Vaturi, Renato Fusman, Ronit Shohat-Zabarski, Noam Fink, Avital Porter, Yaron Shapira, Abid Assali, and Alex Sagie

Esophageal Dysfunction in Syndrome X 1187
Mats Börjesson, Per Albertsson, Mikael Dellborg, Tore Eliasson, Martin Pilhall, Peter Rolny, and Clas Mannheimer

Hostility, Social Support, and Coronary Heart Disease in the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Family Heart Study 1192
Sarah S. Knox, Kimberly D. Siegmund, Gerdi Weidner, R. Curtis Ellison, Avril Adelman, and Catherine Paton

Regional Right and Left Atrial Activation Patterns During Single- and Dual-Site Atrial Pacing in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation 1197
Atul Prakash, Philippe Delfaut, Ryszard B. Krol, and Sanjeev Saksena

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

The Natural Course of Untreated Sick Sinus Syndrome and Identification of the Variables Predictive of Unfavorable Outcome 1205
Carlo Menozzi, Michele Brignole, Paolo Alboni, Luca Boni, Nelly Paparella, Germano Gaggioli, and Gino Lolli

Use of Sublingual Nitroglycerin During Head-up Tilt-Table Testing in Patients >60 Years of Age 1210
Andrea Natale, Jasbir Sra, Masood Akhtar, Luke Kusmirek, Gery Tomassoni, Fabio Leonelli, Keith Newby, Salwa Beheiry, and Antonio Pacifico

VALVULAR HEART DISEASE

Hemodynamics and Left Ventricular Mass Regression Following Implantation of the Toronto SPV Stentless Porcine Valve **1214**
David S. Bach, Tirone David, Magdi Yacoub, John Pepper, Bernard Goldman, Jeremy Wood, Edward Verrier, Michael Petracek, Victor Aldrete, Michael Rosenbloom, Hormoz Azar, and Harry Rakowski

Left Atrial Energy in Normal Subjects, in Patients With Symptomatic Mitral Stenosis, and in Patients With Advanced Heart Failure **1220**
Christodoulos Stefanadis, John Dernellis, Spyros Lambrou, and Pavlos Toutouzas

CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

Usefulness of Color Kinesis Imaging for Evaluation of Regional Right Ventricular Wall Motion in Patients With Surgically Repaired Tetralogy of Fallot **1224**
Yasunobu Hayabuchi, Suguru Matsuoka, Masahiro Kubo, and Yasuhiro Kuroda

MISCELLANEOUS

Utility of an Integrated Clinical, Echocardiographic, and Venous Ultrasonographic Approach for Triage of Patients With Suspected Pulmonary Embolism **1230**
Stefano Grifoni, Iacopo Olivotto, Paolo Cecchini, Filippo Pieralli, Alberto Camaiti, Gennaro Santoro, Alessandro Pieri, Simone Toccafondi, Simone Magazzini, Giancarlo Berni, and Giancarlo Agnelli

Effect of Endurance Exercise Training on Heart Rate Variability at Rest in Healthy Young and Older Men **1236**
Wayne C. Levy, Manuel D. Cerqueira, George D. Harp, Karl-Arne Johannessen, Itamar B. Abrass, Robert S. Schwartz, and John R. Stratton

Increased Cardiovascular Disease Mortality Rates in Traumatic Lower Limb Amputees **1242**
Michaela Modan, Einat Peles, Hillel Halkin, Hedva Nitzan, Morris Azaria, Sanford Gitel, Dan Dolfin, and Baruch Modan

METHODS

Validation of the Conductance Catheter Method for Measurement of Ventricular Volumes Under Varying Conditions Relevant to Cardiac Surgery **1248**
Abdul-Hakam Al-Khalidi, Jonathan N. Townend, Robert S. Bonser, and John H. Coote

Combined Assessment of Myocardial Perfusion and Left Ventricular Function With Exercise Technetium-99m Sestamibi Gated Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography Can Differentiate Between Ischemic and Nonischemic Dilated Cardiomyopathy **1253**
Peter G. Danias, Alan W. Ahlberg, Bernard A. Clark III, Frank Messineo, Michael G. Levine, Carol C. McGill, April Mann, Jonathan Clive, James E. Dougherty, David D. Waters, and Gary V. Heller

INTERVIEW

DEAN JAMES KEREIAKES, MD: A Conversation With the Editor **1259**

BRIEF REPORTS

Comparison of Angioscopic, Intravascular Ultrasonic, and Angiographic Detection of Thrombus in Coronary Stenosis **1273**
Damian Franzen, Udo Sechtem, and Hans W. Höpp

Acute Effects of Nicotine Content in Cigarettes on Coronary Flow Velocity and Coronary Flow Reserve in Men **1275**
Takahiro Tanaka, Yukiko Oka, Ineko Tawara, Toshikatu Sada, and Yuji Kira

Usefulness of Endocoronary Electrocardiogram in the Detection of Myocardial Viability and Comparison With Single-Photon Emission Computed Tomography Tl-201 ..... **1279**
Emile Ferrari, Renaud Vidal, Octave Migneco, Michel Thiry, and Marcel Baudouy

Utility of Stress Echocardiography in the Triage of Patients With Atypical Chest Pain from the Emergency Department **1282**
Percy J. Colon III, Joseph S. Guarisco, Joseph Murgo, and Jorge Cheirif

Internal Right Atrial Cardioversion of Chronic Atrial Fibrillatiion: Effects of Low-Energy Biphasic Shocks **1285**
Jacques Mansourati, Valérie Valls-Bertault, Jean-Marie Larlet, Benoit Maheu, Marc Hero, and Jean-Jacques Blanc

Randomized Comparison of Slow Pathway Modification Within the Posteroseptal Versus the Midseptal Area in Patients With Atrioventricular Nodal Reentrant Tachycardia **1287**
Yi-Gang Li, Frank Bogun, Gerian Grönefeld, and Stefan H. Hohnloser

Recognition of Lead Reversals in Pediatric Electrocardiograms **1290**
Lars Edenbrandt and Ralf Rittner

Initial Experience With a Laser Sheath to Extract Chronic Transvenous Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator Leads **1293**
Subramanian C. Krishnan and Laurence M. Epstein

***Dobutamine*-Induced Changes in Pulmonary Artery Pressure in Patients With Congestive Heart Failure and Their Relation to Abnormalities of Lung Diffusing Capacity** **1296**
Pompilio Faggiano, Antonio D'Aloia, Anna Gualeni, Nicolino Ambrosino, Marco Pagani, and Amerigo Giordano

Effects of High-Dose *Lisinopril-Isosorbide Dinitrate* on Severe Mitral Regurgitation and Heart Failure Remodeling **1299**

Arlene B. Levine, Cynthia Muller, and T. Barry Levine

Usefulness of Echocardiographic Determined Tricuspid Regurgitation in Predicting Event-Free Survival in Severe Heart Failure Secondary to Idiopathic-Dilated Cardiomyopathy or to Ischemic Cardiomyopathy 1301
Judy Hong, Todd Koelling, Marc J. Semigran, G. William Dec, Robert A. Levine, and Thomas G. Di Salvo

Fontan Fenestration Closure in the Catheterization Laboratory—Echocardiographic Evaluation of Residual Right to Left Shunts 1304
Carlen Gomez, Thomas Lloyd, Ralph Mosca, Edward Bove, and Achi Ludomirsky

CASE REPORT

Giant Coronary Artery Aneurysm Presenting as a Mediastinal Mass 1307
Keith M. Channon, Sue Wadsworth, and Yaver Bashir
An asymptomatic mediastinal mass in a 72-year-old man was imaged by computer tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and coronary arteriography, revealing a giant atheromatous aneurysm of the right coronary artery.

READERS' COMMENTS

Long-Term Versus Short-Term Journal Impact Regarding *The American Journal of Cardiology* 1309
Tsung O. Cheng

DECEMBER 1, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 11

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Age-Related Trends in Short- and Long-Term Survival After Acute Myocardial Infarction: A 20-Year Population-Based Perspective (1975–1995) 1311
Robert J. Goldberg, Danny McCormick, Jerry H. Gurwitz, Jorge Yarzebski, Darleen Lessard, and Joel M. Gore

New Electrocardiographic Criteria for Predicting the Site of Coronary Artery Occlusion in Inferior Wall Acute Myocardial Infarction 1318
Masami Kosuge, Kazuo Kimura, Toshiyuki Ishikawa, Yoichiro Hongo, Yasuyuki Mochida, Mitsugi Sugiyama, and Osamu Tochikubo

Prognostic Role of Heart Rate Variability in Patients With a Recent Acute Myocardial Infarction 1323
Gaetano Antonio Lanza, Vincenzo Guido, M. Marco Galeazzi, Marina Mustilli, Rosaria Natali, Carolina Ierardi, Caterina Milici, Francesco Burzotta, Vincenzo Pasceri, Francesco Tomassini, Alessandro Lupi, and Attilio Maseri

Comparison of Reported Symptoms of Acute Myocardial Infarction in Mexican Americans Versus Non-Hispanic Whites (The Corpus Christi Heart Project) 1329
Angela F. Meshack, David C. Goff, Wenyaw Chan, David Ramsey, Adriana Linares, Roy Reyna, and Dilip Pandey

Prognosis of "Clandestine" Myocardial Ischemia, Silent Myocardial Ischemia, and Angina Pectoris in Medically Treated Patients 1333
Jaume Candell-Riera, César Santana-Boado, Begoña Bermejo, Joan Castell-Conesa, Santiago Aguadé-Bruix, Teresa Canela, and Jordi Soler-Soler

Optimal Criteria for the Diagnosis of Coronary Artery Disease by *Dobutamine* Stress Echocardiography 1339
Abdou Elhendy, Ron T. van Domburg, Jeroen J. Bax, Don Poldermans, Peter R Nierop, Jaroslaw D. Kasprzak, and Jos R.T.C. Roelandt

Directional Coronary Atherectomy for the Treatment of Palmaz-Schatz In-Stent Restenosis 1345
Nasser A. Mahdi, Asad Z. Pathan, Lari Harrell, Miltiadis N. Leon, Julio Lopez, Anjum Butte, Margaret Ferrell, Herman K. Gold, and Igor F. Palacios

Effects of *Doxazosin* on Exercise-Induced Angina Pectoris, ST-Segment Depression, and Insulin Sensitivity in Patients With Syndrome X 1352
Hans Erik Bøtker, Helle Sauer Sonne, Ole Schmitz, and Torsten Toftegaard Nielsen

PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY

Cost-Effectiveness of Statins 1357
Daniel M. Huse, Mason W. Russell, Jeffrey D. Miller, Dale F. Kraemer, Ralph B. D'Agostino, R. Curtis Ellison, and Stuart C. Hartz

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Relation Between Aging and Circadian Variation of Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation 1364
Takeshi Yamashita, Yuji Murakawa, Noriyuki Hayami, Kazunori Sezaki, Masashi Inoue, Eiichi Fukui, and Masao Omata

Clinical and Echocardiographic Features Influencing Recovery of Atrial Function After Cardioversion of Atrial Fibrillation 1368
Anna Vittoria Mattioli, Annadele Castelli, Anna Andria, and Giorgio Mattioli

Mechanisms of Syncope in Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator Recipients Who Receive Device Therapies 1372
Abiodun G. Olatidoye, Joan Verroneau, and Jeffrey Kluger

CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Pattern of Changes Over Time in Myocardial Blood Flow and Microvascular Dilator Capacity in Patients With Normally Functioning Cardiac Allografts 1377
Sudhir S. Kushwaha, Jagat Narula, Navneet Narula, Gerasimos Zervos, Marc J. Semigran, Alan J. Fischman, Nathaniel A. Alpert, G. William Dec, and Henry Gewirtz

Comparison of Left Ventricular Function During Interval Versus Steady-State Exercise Training in Patients With Chronic Congestive Heart Failure 1382
Katharina Meyer, Carl Foster, Nikolaos Georgakopoulos, Ramiz Hajric, Samuel Westbrook, Amy Ellestad, Ken Tilman, Dani Fitzgerald, Heidi Young, Howard Weinstein, and Helmut Roskamm

VALVULAR HEART DISEASE

What Does the Left Atrial V Wave Signify During Balloon Commissurotomy of Mitral Stenosis? 1388
Andrew Wang, J. Kevin Harrison, Karen S. Pieper, Katherine B. Kisslo, and Thomas M. Bashore

CARDIOMYOPATHY

Use of Pulsed Doppler Tissue Imaging to Assess Regional Left Ventricular Diastolic Dysfunction in Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy 1394
Sergio Severino, Pio Caso, Maurizio Galderisi, Luigi De Simone, Antonio Petrocelli, Oreste de Divitiis, and Nicola Mininni

Diagnosis of Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy by Fourier Analysis of Gated Blood Pool Single-Photon Emission Tomography 1399
Danielle Casset-Senon, Laurent Philippe, Dominique Babuty, Véronique Eder, Laurent Fauchier, Jean Paul Fauchier, Jean Marie Pottier, and Pierre Cosnay

CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

Transcatheter Closure of Atrial Septal Defect and Patent Foramen Ovale With the ASDOS Device (A Multi-Institutional European Trial) 1405
Horst Sievert, Uros U. Babic, Gerd Hausdorf, Martin Schneider, Hans W.Höpp, Dietrich Pfeiffer, Matthias Pfisterer, Beat Friedli, and Philip Urban, on behalf of the ASDOS Study Group

METHODS

Evaluation of Left Ventricular Early Diastolic Performance by Color Tissue Doppler Imaging of the Mitral Annulus 1414
Nobuyuki Ohte, Hitomi Narita, Takeshi Hashimoto, Sachie Akita, Kazuyuki Kurokawa, and Takao Fujinami

BRIEF REPORTS

Coronary Stenting of Bifurcation Lesions Using "T" or "Reverse Y" Configuration With Wiktor Stent 1418
Didier Carrié, Meyer Elbaz, Grégoire Dambrin, Frédéric Saint-Cricq, Pierre Dugrand, Joëlle Fourcade, and Jacques Puel

Randomized, Prospective Comparison of Four Burst Pacing Algorithms for Spontaneous Ventricular Tachycardia 1422
Rafael Peinado, Jesús Almendral, Teresa Rius, Angel Moya, Jose Luis Merino, Jesús Martínez-Alday, Julián Pérez-Villacastín, Angel Arenal, José Ormaetxe, Luis Tercedor, Olga Medina, Agustín Pastor, and Juan Luis Delcán

Chronotropic Response, Safety, and Accuracy of *Dobutamine* Stress Echocardiography in Patients With Atrial Fibrillation and Known or Suspected Coronary Artery Disease 1425
Timothy J. Hobday, Patricia A. Pellikka, Christine H. Attenhofer Jost, Jae K. Oh, Fletcher A. Miller, Jr., and James B. Seward

Comparison of Echocardiographic Acoustic Quantification With Off-Line Manual Tracing for Determining Left Ventricular Volume and Ejection Fraction in Pediatric Patients 1428
Bruce G. Hardy, Mary J. Rice, and Robert W. McDonald

Relation Between the Number of Image Planes and the Accuracy of Three-Dimensional Echocardiography for Measuring Left Ventricular Volumes and Ejection Fraction 1431
Peter G. Danias, Michael L. Chuang, Robert A. Parker, Raymond A. Beaudin, Matthew G. Mooney, Warren J. Manning, Pamela S. Douglas, and Mark G. Hibberd

Location of Stents in the Left Anterior Descending Coronary Artery Using Three Dimensionally Acquired, Two Dimensionally Displayed Transthoracic Echocardiography 1434
William C. Maxted Jr., Susan T. Swanson, Melinda Huntley, Douglas S. Segar, Stephen G. Sawada , and Harvey Feigenbaum

---

DECEMBER 15, 1998, VOL. 82, NO. 12

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

Direct Stent Implantation Without Predilatation Using the MultiLink Stent 1437
Dimitrios Pentousis, Yves Guérin, François Funck, Hong Zheng, Marcel Toussaint, Thierry Corcos, and Xavier Favereau

Impact of an Aggressive Coronary Stenting Strategy on the Incidence of Target Lesion Revascularization 1441
Ahmad Farshid, Roger M. Allan, Robert W. Giles, R. Michael McCredie, Mark R. Pitney, and Warren F. Walsh

Two- to Three-Year Follow-Up of Patients With Single-Vessel Coronary Artery Disease Randomized to PTCA or Medical Therapy (Results of a VA Cooperative Study) 1445
Pamela M. Hartigan, John C. Giacomini, Edward D. Folland, and Alfred F. Parisi

Increased Intensity of Contrast Material Immediately After Late Angioplasty of Infarct-Related Coronary Artery is Associated With Reduced Ventricular Volumes at Six Months 1451
Gianni Destro, Paolo Marino, Monica Carletti, Giancarlo Caraffi, and Piero Zardini

Heterogeneous Fate of Perfusion and Contraction After Anterior Wall Acute Myocardial Infarction and Effects on Left Ventricular Remodeling **1457**
Claudio Marcassa, Michele Galli, Roberto Bolli, PierLuigi Temporelli, Riccardo Campini, and Pantaleo Giannuzzi.

Effect of Intravenous *Nitroglycerin* on Lipid Peroxidation After Thrombolytic Therapy for Acute Myocardial Infarction. **1463**
Hans Öhlin, Natascia Pavlidis, and Ann-Kristin Öhlin

Comparison of *Dipyridamole* Stress Echocardiography and Perfusion Scintigraphy for Cardiac Risk Stratification in Vascular Surgery Patients **1468**
Agnes Pasquet, Anne-Marie D'Hondt, Robert Verhelst, Jean Louis Vanoverschelde, Jacques Melin, and Thomas H. Marwick

Diagnosis of Coronary Vasospasm in Patients With Clinical Presentation of Unstable Angina Pectoris Using Ergonovine Echocardiography **1475**
Jae-Kwan Song, Seong-Wook Park, Duk-Hyun Kang, Cheol-Whan Lee, Kee-Joon Choi, Myung-Ki Hong, Jae-Joong Kim, You-Ho Kim, and Seung-Jung Park

***Chlamydia Pneumoniae* Infection Is Frequent But Not Associated With Coronary Arteriosclerosis in Cardiac Transplant Recipients** **1479**
James C. Fang, Scott Kinlay, Ruth Kundsin, and Peter Ganz

PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY

Effects of *Pravastatin* on Thoracic Aortic Atherosclerosis in Patients With Heterozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia **1484**
Christos E. Pitsavos, Konstantina I. Aggeli, John D. Barbetseas, Ioannis N. Skoumas, Spyros G. Lambrou, Alexandra A. Frogoudaki, Christodoulos I. Stefanadis, and Pavlos K. Toutouzas

Long-Term Efficacy of Low-Density Lipoprotein Apheresis on Coronary Heart Disease in Familial Hypercholesterolemia **1495**
Hiroshi Mabuchi, Junji Koizumi, Masami Shimizu, Kouji Kajinami, Susumu Miyamoto, Kousei Ueda, Tadayoshi Takegoshi, and the Hokuriku-FH-LDL-Apheresis Study Group

ARRHYTHMIAS AND CONDUCTION DISTURBANCES

Influence of Heart Rate on Stroke Volume Variability in Atrial Fibrillation in Patients With Normal and Impaired Left Ventricular Function **1496**
Andrew J. Kerr, Mark B. Simmonds, and Ralph A.H. Stewart

SYSTEMIC HYPERTENSION

Does Withdrawal of Antihypertensive Medication Increase the Risk of Cardiovascular Events? **1501**
John B. Kostis, Mark A. Espeland, Lawrence Appel, Karen C. Johnson, June Pierce, and James L. Wofford, for the Trial of Nonpharmacologic Interventions in the Elderly (TONE) Cooperative Research Group

CARDIOMYOPATHY

Early Expression of a Malignant Phenotype of Familial Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Associated With a Gly716Arg Myosin Heavy Chain Mutation in a Korean Family **1509**
Tae-Hong Hwang, Won-Ha Lee, Akinori Kimura, Manatsu Satoh, Takeyuki Nakamura, Myung-Kon Kim, Suk-Ku Choi, and Jeong-Euy Park

QT Dispersion and Risk Factors for Sudden Cardiac Death in Patients With Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy **1514**
Gang Yi, Perry Elliott, William J. McKenna, Krishna Prasad, Sanjay Sharma, Xiao Hua Guo, A. John Camm, and Marek Malik

METHODS

Standardized Guidelines for the Interpretation of *Dobutamine* Echocardiography Reduce Interinstitutional Variance in Interpretation **1520**
Rainer Hoffmann, Harald Lethen, Thomas Marwick, Riccardo Rambaldi, Paolo Fioretti, Alessandro Pingitore, Eugenio Picano, Thomas Buck, Raimund Erbel, Frank A. Flachskampf, and Peter Hanrath

BRIEF REPORTS

Importance of Exercise Capacity in the Interpretation of a Myocardial Ischemic Response to Exercise Testing ... **1525**
John F. Murphy and Ronald J. Krone, for the Multicenter Study of Myocardial Ischemia Group (MSMI)

***Dobutamine*-Induced ST-Segment Elevation in Patients Without Myocardial Infarction** **1528**
Mario Previtali, Raffaela Fetiveau, Luca Lanzarini, and Cristina Cavalotti

Coronary Arterial Anatomy in Patients With Left Ventricular Systolic Dysfunction Without Chest Pain or Previous Myocardial Infarction **1530**
William R. Pitts, Richard A. Lange, L. David Hillis, and Joaquin E. Cigarroa

Prognostic Significance of Cerebrovascular Disease in 11,526 Chronic Coronary Artery Disease Patients **1532**
Henrietta Reicher-Reiss, Michael Jonas, David Tanne, Lori Mandelzweig, Uri Goldbourt, Avraham Shotan, Valentina Boyko, and Solomon Behar, for the Bezafibrate Infarction Prevention (BIP) Study Group

Endothelium-Dependent Flow-Mediated Vasodilation in Coronary and Brachial Arteries in Suspected Coronary Artery Disease **1535**
Bonpei Takase, Akimi Uehata, Takashi Akima, Tomoo Nagai, Toshihiko Nishioka, Akira Hamabe, Kimio Satomura, Fumitaka Ohsuzu, and Akira Kurita

Clinical and Angiographic Results of Stenting for Long Coronary Arterial Atherosclerotic Lesions **1539**

Hervé Le Breton, Marc Bedossa, Philippe Commeau, Jacques Boschat, Bruno Huret, Martine Gilard, Philippe Brunel, Dominique Crochet, Gilles Grollier, Rémi Douillet, René Koning, Eric Lefebvre, Mohammed Meselhy, Christophe Leclercq, and Jean Claude Pony

Modulatory Impact of Cardiac Rehabilitation on Hyperhomocysteinemia in Patients With Coronary Artery Disease and "Normal" Lipid Levels **1543**
Arshad Ali, Mandeep R. Mehra, Carl J. Lavie, Furrukh S. Malik, Joseph P. Murgo, Thomas P. Lohmann, Shuguang Li, Hun-Chi Lin, and Richard V. Milani

Timing of Thromboembolic Events After Electical Cardioversion of Atrial Fibrillation or Flutter: A Retrospective Analysis **1545**
Marvin Berger and Paul Schweitzer

Patent Ductus Arteriosus Occlusion Using Detachable Coils **1547**
Ramon Bermúdez-Cañete, Giuseppe Santoro, Jacek Bialkowsky, Ignacio Herraiz, Roberto Formigari, Malgorzata Szkutnik, and Luigi Ballerini

Aortic Sinotubular Junction Calcium as a Marker of Severe Aortic Atherosclerosis **1549**
Robert S. Finkelhor, Mojtaba E. Youssefi, Sri K. Madan Mohan, and Robert C. Bahler

Correlation of Thoracic Aortic Atherosclerotic Plaque Detected by Multiplane Transesophageal Echocardiography and Cardiovascular Risk Factors **1552**
Christophe Tribouilloy, Marcel Peltier, Michel Andrejak, Jean-Luc Rey, and Jean-Philippe Lesbre

Effect of Long-Term Estrogen Therapy on Brachial Arterial Endothelium-Dependent Vasodilation in Women With Raynaud's Phenomenon Secondary to Systemic Sclerosis **1555**
John Lekakis, Christos Papamichael, Myron Mavrikakis, Anastasios Voutsas, and Stamatios Stamatelopoulos

Imaging Technique and Clinical Utility for Electrophysiologic Procedures of Lower Frequency (9 MHz) Intracardiac Echocardiography **1557**
Jian-Fang Ren, David Schwartzman, David Callans, Francis E. Marchlinski, Charles D. Gottlieb, and Farooq A. Chaudhry

READERS' COMMENTS **1561**